



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

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## International

### SUDAN: A CRITICAL MOMENT, A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH *Secretary Clinton Announces New Sudan Strategy*

**WASHINGTON, DC, Oct. 19 --** Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, accompanied by U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice and Special Envoy to Sudan Scott Gration, announced the Administration's Sudan strategy, a new strategy focused on reinvigorating the international support that is critical to building peace and security in Sudan.

The strategy is the first comprehensive U.S. policy on Sudan that recognizes the links between the Darfur and implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). More importantly, the strategy is based on a policy of "verify, then trust" such that backsliding on CPA implementation or failure by any party to work to resolve the situation in Darfur is met with credible pressure, leveraged by the United States or the international community. These changes, while seemingly simple, are significant and allow us to begin the necessary long-term planning and coordination at all levels of government.



This new strategy comes only months prior to significant deadlines in the CPA being reached, and therefore reflects the urgency with which we view those milestones, to include national elections and a referendum on southern succession. The Strategy outlines how the United States will work closely with its international partners to:

- Provide assistance for elections in 2010 and the referendum on southern self-determination in 2011.
- Support efforts to push for the timely and transparent demarcation of the North-South border.
- Support conflict resolution mechanisms within southern Sudan and along the north-south border.
- Promote Improved Governing Capacity and Greater Transparency in Southern Sudan.

[Read More](#) | [Sudan: A Critical Moment, A Comprehensive Approach](#) | [Statement by President Obama](#)



## SECRETARY CLINTON TRAVELS TO EUROPE

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton traveled to Europe from October 9 to 15, 2009. She visited [Switzerland](#), [United Kingdom](#), [Ireland](#), and [Russia](#).



In Zurich, Secretary Clinton attended the signing of two protocols between the governments of Turkey and Armenia, showing support for a historic step for the two countries towards normalization of their relations.

In London and Dublin, the Secretary engaged in a series of discussions on a wide range of bilateral, transatlantic, and global issues.

In Belfast, the Secretary emphasized the U.S. commitment to the joint economic prosperity of Northern Ireland and the United States, as well as reaffirming unwavering U.S. support for Northern Ireland's peace process.

In Moscow, the Secretary met with senior Russian officials to discuss progress on a successor agreement to START, cooperation on nonproliferation and counterterrorism, and next steps for the Clinton-Lavrov commission. After Moscow, the Secretary traveled to Kazan, where she met with local officials and held discussions with religious leaders in Kazan to learn more about Kazan's experience in fostering tolerance and promoting interfaith dialogue.

### TRIP HIGHLIGHTS:

[Pre-Trip Briefing](#) | [DipNote: Travel Diary](#) | [Secretary Clinton's Remarks With Ireland Prime Minister Brian Cowen](#) | [Secretary Clinton's Joint Press Availability With U.K. Foreign Secretary Miliband](#) | [Secretary Clinton's Address to Full Session of Northern Ireland Assembly](#) | [Secretary Clinton's Remarks With Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov](#) | [Trip Information Page](#)

## ACHIEVING U.S. GOALS IN AFGHANISTAN

**Secretary Clinton's Interview with Jill Dougherty of CNN**

*"[W]e're not positive what the election commission will recommend. But clearly, whatever their recommendation is, I believe should be followed. And if that requires a second round, that is what should happen. ...But I think that we have taken into account every possible outcome as we have engaged in our strategic analysis. And I think the President is expecting to make a decision on his own timetable when he is absolutely comfortable with what he believes is in the best interest of the United States."*

**Secretary of State Hillary Clinton  
Washington, DC, October 16, 2009**

**WASHINGTON, DC, Oct. 16 --** Secretary of State Hillary Clinton participated in an interview with Jill Dougherty of CNN. In the interview they discussed the Afghanistan's pending election, irregularities surrounding the election, and possible recommendations that the upcoming Afghanistan Electoral Commission's report might include. In addition, they discussed US Policy in the region and terrorism issues in Afghanistan and Pakistan. [Read More](#)

## Inside the Beltway



### LUNCHEON HONORING FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE GEORGE C. MARSHALL

*"With all of its challenges, the world today is looking to our predecessors for instruction and inspiration. And more often than not, many of us find ourselves turning to George C. Marshall for both. General Marshall knew that our national interests are inseparable from the interests of people everywhere – that we best bolster our security by advancing our values and that we best protect ourselves by looking beyond ourselves."*

**Secretary of State Hillary Clinton  
Washington, DC, October 16, 2009**

**WASHINGTON, DC, Oct. 16 --** Secretary of State Hillary Clinton delivered remarks at luncheon on the State Department's Diplomatic Reception rooms, honoring former Secretary of State George C. Marshall. In her remarks, she honored George Marshall for his service and leadership, and reflected upon the many accomplishments of the former Secretary of State. [Read More](#)



## The Future of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum

*"One month from now, President Obama will make his first trip to Asia since taking office and will attend his first APEC Leaders Meeting in Singapore. His attendance at the meeting demonstrates and reinforces America's strong ties with the Asia-Pacific region. This event will mark APEC's 20th anniversary, as well as the beginning of an important two-year period for U.S. economic relations with the Asia-Pacific..."*

**Kurt Tong, Acting Senior Official for APEC**  
Washington, DC, October 14, 2009

**WASHINGTON, DC, Oct. 14 --** Kurt Tong, Acting Senior Official for APEC, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, testified before the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment on the importance of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC), for U.S. engagement in the Asia-Pacific region. In his testimony, he explained why APEC is important, the APEC agenda, and touted the Obama Administration's clear commitment to the Asia-Pacific region. [Read More](#)

## AMERICAN POWER AND PERSUASION

*"We want to focus on development, particularly agriculture, rule of law, good governance, economic development, women's empowerment -- those kinds of issues. But in order to operate in many of the places in Afghanistan, you have to have a level of security. ... But our assessment was that we needed to focus on how to help the people of Afghanistan lift themselves up, have their own opportunities. And it goes hand-in-hand with our military effort. "*



**Secretary of State Hillary Clinton**  
Washington, DC, October 5, 2009

**WASHINGTON, DC, Oct. 5 --** Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Secretary of Defense Robert Gates were jointly interviewed by the George Washington University School of Media and Public Affairs' Director Frank Sesno and CNN Chief International Correspondent Christiane Amanpour.

Secretaries Clinton and Gates reiterated the need to have a coherent and unified foreign policy and how the instruments of American power in defense, diplomacy, and development needed to be working together. They also discussed current foreign policy challenges, such as Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan. [Read More](#)

# Global Issues Affecting the Nation

## WORLD FOOD DAY

*Secretary Clinton's Statement on World Food Day, October 16, 2009*

*"On World Food Day, we join with others to reaffirm our commitment to work to combat one of today's most critical issues—global hunger. More than one billion people—one sixth of the world's population—suffer from chronic hunger. This year there are an estimated 105 million more people who are chronically hungry than last year. The world has taken notice. Now we must take action."*

**Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State**  
Washington, DC, October 16, 2009

**WASHINGTON, DC, Oct. 16 --** In honor of World Food Day, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton released a Statement underscoring the importance of fighting hunger and poverty through sustainable agricultural development.

In her statement, she reiterated the long term commitment of the United States to work with its partners around the world to eradicate hunger. She said "making sure that enough food is available and that people have the resources to purchase it—is a key foreign policy objective of the Obama Administration. Food security is about



economic, environmental, and national security for our individual homelands and the entire world.”

[Read More: Full Statement](#) | [YouTube: Food Security Video \(Narrated by Matt Damon\)](#) | [Global Hunger and Food Security website](#)

## COMBATING SEXUAL VIOLENCE AS A TACTIC OF WAR

*"Resolution 1888... strengthens existing UN tools to address sexual violence as a tactic of war. Women are being attacked as part of a deliberate and coordinated strategy.... The attackers viciously target women and children, who are rarely responsible for initiating the armed conflicts, because it works. Large populations become not only displaced, but destabilized. ...The UN established a clear link between maintaining international peace and security, and preventing and responding to sexual violence used as a weapon in armed conflict."*

**Melanne Verveer, Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues  
Washington, DC, October 2, 2009**



**WASHINGTON, DC, Oct. 2** -- Melanne Verveer, Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues and Stephen Rapp, Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues briefed the press following the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1888. In the briefing, they discussed how conflicts impact women and how this resolution has helped to establish a clear link between maintaining international peace and security, and preventing and responding to sexual violence used as a weapon in armed conflict. [Read More](#) | [Ambassador Verveer's Testimony](#) | [Secretary Clinton's Remarks to UN Security Council](#)

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